

JEAN ELIOT'S CHRONICLES OF CAPITAL SOCIETY DOINGS

Society Ready For Festivities Of Christmas

DEAR SUSAN: Christmas is upon us suddenly this year, a curiously poignant Christmas marked either by great sorrow, or great joy. So engrossed were we all with the signing of the armistice, the President's trip to Europe, all the momentous events which have been transpiring, that we were in the midst of the holiday season before we realized that it was approaching. In the endeavor to make up for lost time, the last few days have been crowded with the next few days will, apparently, be even more crowded.

Christmas is, of course, a festival to be spent largely in the bosom of one's family, but by evening even the best regulated family is inclined to be tired of its own company. Moreover, the average Christmas dinner is an imposing affair and dancing an excellent aid to digestion. So the ball at Rauscher's for the benefit of the Children's Country Home, which has become a recognized Christmas institution, serves a double purpose.

Then, too, this particularly appealing charity is "promoted" by the smartest young women in Washington society—Mrs. Joseph Lister, Mrs. Charles Washington, Mrs. Charles Carroll Glover, Jr., Mrs. John H. Merriam, Mrs. Randall Hagner, Countess Gitzky, and others of their ilk—and they always manage to ring together a rather more brilliant assemblage than turns out for any charity affair of the season. Indeed, it's all more like a chic private ball than a semi-public function, the women wear their prettiest frocks and hand-somest jewels and everybody has a good time.

This year there'll be another party for good measure, as Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Martin are giving a dinner dance at the Maison Sovrani for their schoolgirl daughter, Peggy Martin.

Another Christmas week festivity, which should be equally smart, is the entertainment to be given on Friday at Edward Hamlin Everett's big house in Sheridan Circle by the Red Cross helpers and the American fund for French wounded. I say "entertainment" advisedly, for the promised festivities are difficult to classify. Beginning in the afternoon with a tea-dance and bridge and a "mythic room," and such highly original events as an exhibition of fancy swimming and the like, the benefit will wind up with a ball in the evening. Of course, with such women as Mrs. A. Garrison, McClintock, Mrs. William A. Slater, Mrs. Henry P. Fairbanks, Mrs. George Becker and Mrs. Clarence, for the Red Cross Helpers, and Mrs. de Chere, Mrs. Grimpe, and Mrs. Charles A. Hamlin, for the American fund, in charge, the success of the ball is assured, and the mere fact that the entertainment is to be given in the Everett house will add a filip of interest.

Washington watched the building of this house for many months and was fed on fabulous tales of the enormous sums which were expended on the foundations, so that the great white house might perch safely on the rim of Rock Creek valley without slipping into the stream of the magnificent swimming pool which the architect had designed, at the splendor of the interior and so on. And even though the house has been finished for some time, there are not many people who have seen the inside of it. For see, just when the mansion was nearing completion the Everett's eldest daughter, who was to have made her debut with a good deal of éclat, slipped off and was married, and her parents rather lost interest in the house.

A year or two later work was taken up again and the finishing touches put on the structure, as the second daughter was growing to womanhood. Then the Everetts



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MISS MARGARET HARDING,
Debutante daughter of W. P. G. Harding, Governor of the Federal Reserve Board. Her cousin, Mrs. Mark Bristol, gave a tea to mark her coming out.

MISS ELIZABETH HAMILTON,
Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George E. Hamilton, whose engagement to Major William F. Tompkins, Corps of Engineers, U. S. A., has been announced.

MISS LELIA GORDON,
Daughter of Mrs. George Barnett, who will be presented to society shortly at a tea dance, followed by a ball, at the Marine Barracks.

moved in, but almost before they were well settled, Mrs. Everett died, and the family is only just coming out of mourning. At least, that is the tale as it was told to me. Miss Everett—Anna Everett—has been in New York for the greater part of the winter, but is with her father for the holidays and has Miss Wing staying with her.

Apropos of benefits, here's an announcement which suggests interesting possibilities: "Mrs. George Bakhmeteff, former ambassador of Russia to the United States; Mrs. George T. Marye, former American ambassador to Russia; Mrs. Edward Beale McLean, Mrs. James McDonald, and Mrs. H. Fessenden Meserve are organizing a Russian ball for the benefit of the destitute and famine-stricken children of Russia, to be given on January 15 at Wardman Park Inn.

The ball will be one of the most brilliant affairs of the season, and included among the patronesses will be the leading society women of Washington.

On Christmas Eve there are no less than three important dances, one at the British embassy, with the Charge d'Affaires of Great Britain and Mrs. Cliville Barclay as hosts, and another which Mr. and Mrs. John A. Baker are giving at Grasslands for their granddaughter, Elizabeth Baker Kemp. A good many of the debutantes are going to take in both of these, and the "flapper" will have her innings at the dance which Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Bonaparte are giving for Mrs. Bonaparte's schoolgirl daughters, Blanche and Barbara Strebelgh.

The rest of the week promises to be equally gay. On Monday afternoon Julia Zaldivar, daughter of the minister of Salvador, is to be presented, and there'll be a dance for her in the evening. Mrs. George Barnett is to have her first at-home at the Marine Barracks since her return from France. And in the evening the John Skelton Williams are giving a big dinner at the Willard for the McAdams, and there are numerous other less formal dinners, notably the one which Mr. and Mrs. Rosier Dulaney are giving for Anne Dulaney. On Thursday two debutantes, Elizabeth Hamlin Young and Teresa James, will have their coming-out parties, and the two buds also will be presented on Saturday. Corliss Virginia Drain, daughter of Brice Gen. and Mrs. James A. Drain, will make her debut at a tea, followed by an informal dance, which her mother is giving, and Carter Muliken will be introduced at a dance at the Brighton. The Third Assistant Secretary of State and Mrs. Breckinridge Long, also will give a dance on Saturday evening.

The members of the Cabinet and their families are almost without exception planning to spend Christmas rather quietly, but several of them will slip away to New York on Christmas night to join the party which the Secretary of the Navy and Mrs. Daniels will entertain aboard the Mayflower for the great naval review next day.

As for New Year Day, it would seem that we are to have the quietest Washington has ever known. Cabinet receptions have been becoming fewer and fewer from year to year ever since President Wilson first cancelled the historic White House reception, until only the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy were left to keep up a pretty custom.

This year Mrs. Daniels says "she hasn't heard anything about being at home," and the Secretary of War and Mrs. Baker will probably not attempt anything in the nature of a general reception, as Mrs. Baker, who has been ill for weeks, is scarcely strong enough to stand throughout the afternoon. With the Secretary of State away, the diplomatic breakfast, which used to be a feature of New Year Day

before the war, cannot, of course, be resumed. And so it goes.

Sunday Events Start Lively Social Week.

Last week certainly got a running start. Sunday, which is usually a blank on the calendar, save possibly for an informal tea or two, was marked by an exceedingly worth while recital—the Isadora Duncan Dancers and George Copeland, pianist—at the

Belasco Theater, the first of a series to be given on Sunday afternoons under the auspices of the Washington Fine Arts Enterprise; and then there were "doings" at the headquarters of both wings of the suffragists.

The National American Woman Suffrage Association gave a supper party for two of the new Senators, with their wives, a hospitality which is to be repeated this evening with other notables as the honor guests. And

the militants, the National Woman's Party, staged a big rally at the National Theater, and afterward had a reception at the headquarters, both

Fancies, Fads, And Foibles of Capital Society

being part of the program of the three-days' conference of the officers and State leaders of the party, called to meet the present suffrage emergency.

Monday's program was equally full. That evening Mr. and Mrs. Richard A. Harlow entertained at dinner for their daughter, Catherine Harlow, and her fiancé, Lieut. Commander Theodore Stark, Wilkinson, 24 U. S. M. I. whose marriage took place last day.

Of more general interest, however, for only members of the social party and a few more of the social friends were present at this reception—was the benefit for Columbia Hospital at the Belasco Theater that evening. This brought out not only a huge audience and a most enthusiastic audience, but a cashing-out-of-goodness Washington audience. It was a genuine pleasure to find oneself at the play, surrounded by familiar faces instead of by new and rows of people one has never seen and saving your presence would prefer never to see again—and that's the usual state of affairs at these affairs. The play was "The Maquettade" with Guy Bates Post as the star. It was very good, and altogether the benefit was a happy occasion. The hospital must be the richer by a goodly sum.

Two Monday Afternoon Tea Lingers As Pleasant Memory.

In the afternoon there was a very charming little tea at the Little Club given by the woman's board of the hospital in compliment to Mr. Post. Mrs. Post (Adeline Rittenberg, who is a member of her husband's society, shared honors with him. She is a very charming "little person," blonde and bewitching, and "took" immediately. It was Mrs. Post who raffled a doll from the stage of the Belasco between the acts of the performance in the evening; and this, as well as the "Queen of the Dolls" a dress-making which inaugurated a sale of dolls through the audience for the further enrichment of the hospital, was handled accordingly. The benefit was Mrs. R. D. Shephard's idea and the ballet was carried out under her supervision.

The "tea and talk" arranged by Mrs. Modell McCormick at the headquarters of the Republican Woman's National Executive Committee was another event of Monday afternoon, and there was nothing dry and official about the occasion, despite the truly impressive name of the organization of which Mrs. McCormick is the head.

Urges Continued Support Of Overseas Relief Work.

Mrs. McCormick told briefly of the purpose for which the committee was organized and its plans for the future. Mrs. Raymond Robbins spoke on the subject nearest her heart, the necessity for giving the woman in industry an equal chance with the man, and then Mrs. Arthur Symon was introduced. She is just back in this country after spending six months in France with the American Fund for French Wounded, and she had some interesting things to tell of the wonderful work which the organization has accomplished.

She voiced a strong plea to the American public not to slacken in its support of the various organizations which are doing relief work in devastated France and Belgium, bringing (Continued on Page Fifteen).

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